

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 08798

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FOR GARRISON FROM MATLOCK

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OGEN
SUBJECT: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

1. SKOUG HAD TWO-HOUR MEETING WITH DEPUTY MINISTER MANZHULO APRIL 24. ALTHOUGH MANZHULO HAD NOT SEEN THE NON-PAPER HANDED VASEV BY BILL LUERS ON APRIL 19 (STATE 101340), AND ALTHOUGH HE DENIED SOVIETS HAD MADE A "PROPOSAL" ON THIS SUBJECT, HE AGREED TO IDEA OF REGULAR MEETINGS AT HIS LEVEL AND SUGGESTED THAT NEXT ONE IN MOSCOW BE BY MID-JULY AT THE LATEST (I.E., ALLOWING FOR A WASHINGTON MEETING IN LATE MAY OR EARLY JUNE; MANZHULO WILL TAKE HIS VACATION IN AUGUST). WE WILL BE REPORTING SUBSTANCE OF MEETING IN OPEN CHANNEL. ALTHOUGH SESSION STARTED IN FAIRLY FROSTY VEIN, MANZHULO QUICKLY REVERTED TO SAME FORTHCOMING AND FRIENDLY MANNER AS CHARACTERIZED LAST SESSION, AND ONE OF HIS SUGGESTIONS WAS THAT ZINOV'YEV ARRANGE KEY MEETINGS FOR SKOUG WITH OTHER DEPUTY MINISTERS SO AS TO SUPPORT U.S. ENTERPRISES BIDDING FOR MAJOR SOVIET CONTRACTS. ANOTHER WAS THAT SKOUG MEET WITH RAKHMANIN, CHIEF OF PROTOCOL (WHO WAS PRESENT), SEPARATELY IN ORDER TO REVIEW ANY SPECIFIC PROBLEMS OUR FIRMS MAY BE HAVING WITH REGARD TO ON-SITE CONSTRUCTION. ONLY NEGATIVE NOTE CAME FROM MEL'NIKOV, CONFIDENTIAL

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WHO TOOK CUSTOMARY NEGATIVE LINE ON SUBJECT OF MARINE INSURANCE AND GAVE US TO UNDERSTAND THAT PROMISED PAPER FROM IVANOV WOULD BE LONG IN COMING, IF EVER.

2. APPRECIATE SOMEONE TELEPHONING ARDIS PUBLISHERS, ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN, TO SEE WHETHER ORDER FOR BOOK SALE AT A-A SCHOOL HAS BEEN SHIPPED. ORDER WAS PLACED ABOUT SIX

WEEKS AGO BY BOB EVANS AND WAS FAIRLY LARGE, BUT ARDIS HAS
NOT YET ACKNOWLEDGED. IF BOOKS HAVE NOT YET BEEN SHIPPED,
THEY WHOULD BE HELD UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE SINCE SALE IS IN
MAY AND SHIPMENT NOW WILL NOT ARRIVE IN TIME. TOON

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